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GROUP 1700

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q64239

Terrence Martin HINDS, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/782,036

Confirmation No.: 8219

Group Art Unit: 1733

Filed: February 14, 2001

Examiner: John C. Gallagher

For: A METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A FLOOR COVERING

#14/D

1/AE

3/21/03

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, and after entry of the Amendment previously filed on January 17, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

- ① SUB E14
1. (Amended) A method for manufacturing a floor covering comprising the steps of :
scattering powder, granules or pellets of a thermoplastic material onto a first substrate to
form a first coating;
applying a second substrate over the first coating;
scattering powder, granules or pellets of a thermoplastic material onto the second
substrate, after said second substrate has been applied over the first coating, to form a second
coating